

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 00898 080956Z

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-01 ABF-01 FS-01 A-01 SS-15 /029 W

----- 081005

R 080830Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0137

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, SA

SUBJ: FUNDING FOR WAGE INCREASE

REF : (1) JIDDA 467; (2) STATE 026236

1. EMBASSY WISHES MAKE BUREAU AWARE OF EXTENT OF WAGE INCREASE WHICH MAY RESULT FROM NEW LOCAL WAGE SURVEY.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER ATTENDED THREE-HOUR MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL AMERICAN FIRMS WHO ALARMED AT DETERIORATING LABOR SITUATION. ALL MUTUALLY IN AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN PRINCIPLES INCLUDING ATTEMPT TO HOLD WAGES TO REASONABLE LEVEL IN A LABOR MARKET WHERE BOTH SKILLED AND UNSKILLED WORKERS ARE IN EXTREMELY SHORT SUPPLY. SITUATION BECOMING MORE CRITICAL EACH DAY WITH LARGE INFLUX OF OTHER FOREIGN AS WELL AS AMERICAN FIRMS COMPETING FOR SERVICES OF A LIMITED LABOR FORCE MADE UP ALMOST ENTIRELY OF NON-SAUDIS WHO SUBJECT TO STRICT ENTRY CONTROLS.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES INCREASES MAY WELL REACH AS HIGH AS 60 PERCENT IN MOST FSL GRADES WHICH, IF EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL \$57,000 FOR PROGRAM DIRECT HIRE AND CASUAL PERSONNEL AND \$80,300 FOR SHARED THROUGH JUNE 30, 1975.

4. IN VIEW OF ALL RAMIFICATIONS OF LOCAL LABOR SCENE, WE GREATLY APPRECIATE BUREAU'S PROMPT AND SUPPORTING RE-

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SPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR PROFESSIONAL ANALYST TO

UNDERTAKE COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY. WE SHALL HAVE EVERY-
THING AVAILABLE FOR HIM UPON ARRIVAL.

5. ESSENTIAL BAIRDAIN INCLUDE DHAHRAN IN PACKAGE SINCE
SITUATION AFFECTING OUR FSL'S THERE IS SERIOUS AS ATTESTED
TO IN DHAHRAN 0138 AND CONFIRMED BY VISIT THERE THIS WEEK
BY SWEDENBURG.

AKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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